

FAIRY TAIL

# RHODONITE

2

BY KYOUTA SHIBANO BASED ON FAIRY TAIL CREATED BY HIRO MASHIMA





**FAIRY TAIL**

# **RHODONITE**



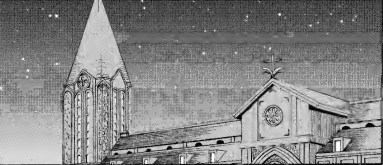
# 2

MANGA BY  
KYOUTA SHIBANO

BASED ON  
A STORY BY  
HIRO MASHIMA

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AH HA  
HA!

I'M  
FREE...!!



DAMMIT!  
SEARCH/  
SEARCH/  
EVERY-  
WHERE!



THE  
PRISONER  
ESCAPED!

NO... WHAT  
COULD HAVE  
HAPPENED?!



JUST  
YOU  
WAIT,  
GAJEEL!



## **Chapter 1: Where is Gajeel?**





**WHAA?!**

WE SUSPECT  
THAT...

...GAJEEL REDFOX  
IN SOME WAY  
ASSISTED WITH  
THAT ESCAPE!

AND YEAH,  
I KNOW HE  
STRUNG US  
UP ON TREES  
ONCE, BUT...

JUST  
WAIT ONE  
SECOND!

RIGHT/ SURE HE  
DESTROYED THE  
GUILD AT LEAST  
ONCE, BUT...

HE MAY NOT  
LOOK LIKE  
ONE OF  
YOUR TYPICAL  
"GOOD GUYS,"  
BUT...

WE COULD  
DETERMINE  
THAT BY SIMPLY  
BEING ABLE TO  
ASK THE MAN  
HIMSELF!

**HUMPH!**

...I CAN'T  
IMAGINE  
GAJEEL  
DOING  
ANYTHING  
LIKE THAT!

IN  
ANY  
CASE  
...

He...  
HE *DID* SAVE  
EACH ONE  
OF YOU AT  
LEAST ONCE,  
REMEMBER?!

WAIT, WHAT  
EXACTLY IS GOOD  
ABOUT HIM?

**どお〜ん** BWAAAAHN



SO IF YOU  
ARE SAYING  
THAT REDFOX  
IS NOT  
HERE...

...WE WILL HAVE  
NO CHOICE BUT  
TO CONSIDER  
HIM A POTENTIAL  
ACCOMPLICE  
AND ISSUE A  
WARRANT.



WHAT'S YOUR  
PROBLEM? IF  
YOU WERE HERE,  
THEN HURRY UP  
AND TALK TO  
THE GUY!

GAJEEL!

!!!

WHAT'S  
THIS ABOUT  
SOME  
KINDA  
WARRANT?



I WONDER  
WHAT  
THAT WAS  
ABOUT?

HE'S  
GONE.

...THERE!  
SEE, HE'S  
RIGHT  
HERE!

NOBODY WHO  
WOULD BE AN  
ACCOMPLICE TO  
A CRIME WOULD  
STAY WHERE YOU  
WERE SURE TO  
FIND HIM, SO...

I  
SUP-  
POSE

...THAT  
IS  
TRUE...

...that  
he was a  
suspect...

I was so  
certain...







ISN'T THAT  
THE SAME  
POSTER THAT  
THE COUNCIL  
MEMBER WAS  
HOLDING?!

WHAT  
IS  
THIS  
...?!

WAIT... DOES  
THAT MEAN  
THAT GAJEEL  
REALLY WAS...



THAT  
WOULD  
NEVER  
HAPPEN!

I  
AGREE.



HOWEVER,  
HE *IS*  
MISSING.  
THAT'S A  
FACT.

AND THE  
COUNCIL  
MEMBER'S  
ATTITUDE  
INDICATES  
THAT GAJEEL  
IS A SUSPECT,

WHICH  
MEANS THAT  
HE MAY BE  
SOMEHOW  
CONNECTED TO  
THIS CRIMINAL...





I...



...ISN'T IT A WASTE OF TIME WHEN WE DON'T HAVE ANY CLUES?

I GUESS, THAT'S TRUE, BUT...

UM...  
LEVY-SAN?



SO I'LL FIND HIM AND GET ALL THE ANSWERS IN ONE SHOT.



REALLY?  
?!



...AN IDEA OF WHERE GAJEEL-KUN MIGHT HAVE GONE.

JUVIA MAY HAVE...











THE  
BANDIT  
TOWN  
OF  
DENISH  
...



FORGET  
HIM!!  
WE CAN'T  
BEAT  
THAT!!  
LET'S  
GET  
OUTTA  
HERE!!

EEEK!



GAH!

WHAM



BOOM

TCH!





PAT

WELL...  
SINCE  
WE'RE  
HERE...

... WHY  
DON'T WE  
GO CRAZY  
FOR A BIT,  
JUST THE  
TWO OF  
US?



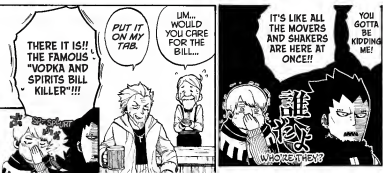
GEE  
HEE!















THIS  
TOWN...

WHAM

...IS MY  
TOWN!!





THAT'S...  
GAJEEL  
...!!

YOU  
GOTTA  
BE  
KIDDING  
ME!!

HE TOOK  
OUT THE TOP  
MOVER'S  
HERE IN AN  
INSTANT  
...?!



PEOPLE  
OF DENISH,  
DO YOU  
REMEMBER  
NOW?!

THE TWO  
REDFOXES  
ARE THE  
KINGS OF  
THIS TOWN!!



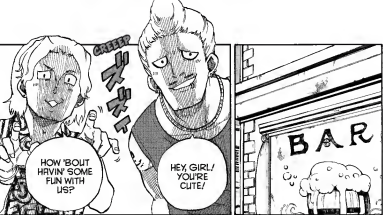
AND  
NOW WE'RE  
GOING  
TO BRING  
DENISH  
BACK TO  
ITS FORMER  
GLORY!!!

WHO RULED  
DENISH  
TEN YEARS  
AGO?

IT WAS  
US!!







### Chapter 3: A Meeting in Denish







"HAUL HIM  
BACK IN"...P

"BOSS"  
P



YOU WANNA  
HAUL BOSS  
GAJEEL BACK  
IN, RIGHT?

I'VE SEEN  
THAT MARK.  
YOU'RE FAIRY  
TAIL WIZARD'S,  
RIGHT?



SO  
WHERE IS  
GAJEEL?

GAJEEL IS A  
MEMBER OF  
FAIRY TAIL!

WHAT'S THE  
MATTER  
WITH OTHER  
MEMBERS  
COMING TO  
SEE HIM?









GWAM

THUD  
FX



SO THIS IS  
THE TOWN OF  
DENISH.

BOOM







ARE YOU  
HERE TO  
SIGHT-  
SEE?



THEN WE'D  
BETTER SHOW  
YOU SOME  
OF OUR  
"HOSPITALITY!"



THAT  
ISN'T THE  
FACE OF A  
MAN SHOWING  
"HOSPITALITY."

WE'D BETTER  
SHOW YOU  
SOME OF OUR  
"HOSPITALITY"!



OF  
COURSE!

WE DON'T  
KNOW WHAT  
THEY CAN  
THROW AT  
US,

SO STAY  
ON YOUR  
GUARD!

THAT'S THE  
GUY WHO  
ESCAPED  
FROM THE  
COUNCIL'S  
PRISON...



Chapter 4: Illegal Magic Drug

10 GLEEEM

HE REALLY  
DID MEAN  
"HOSPITALITY"!!

AND THE GUY JUST KEEPS UP THE PATTERN!

CHATTER NO

OH, AND YOU DO HAVE A PLACE TO SLEEP, DON'T YOU?

CHATTER NO

NOT SURE IF IT'S TO YOUR LIKING...

NOW GIVE IT A TRY!

JUST CALL IF YOU NEED ME, BOSS.

CHATTER NO

IF NOT, I CAN ARRANGE IT FOR YOU!

CHATTER NO

CHATTER

CHATTER

GOT YA!

CHATTER

WHAT FOR?!

N-NO, THANK YOU. ONE ROOM, PLEASE.

YOU GUYS'LL WANT SEPARATE ROOMS, RIGHT?

THIS GUY...

IS HE REALLY THE ESCAPED PRISONER THE POSTER TALKED ABOUT?



THEN THERE'S  
SOME THINGS  
WE'D LIKE TO  
ASK.



WELL, A  
LITTLE, I  
SUPPOSE.



...YOU  
SEEM...

...LIKE YOU  
HAVE A LOT OF  
INFLUENCE IN  
THIS TOWN.



HAVE YOU  
EVER HEARD OF  
RHODONITE?



RHODONITE?



WE'RE HERE ON  
A JOB TRYING  
TO FIND IT AND  
CUT OFF ITS  
SOURCE.

IT'S  
ALREADY CAUSED  
PROBLEMS FOR  
ITS USERS—IT'S  
CAUSED SOME TO  
JUST OUTRIGHT  
COLLAPSE.

IT'S AN ILLEGAL  
NARCOTIC THAT'S  
BEEN MAKING THE  
ROUNDS IN THE  
UNDERWORLD  
RECENTLY.





**DON'T  
BE  
STUPID  
!!**



...YOU'LL  
LET ME OFF  
THE HOOK,  
RIGHT?  
♡



I'M AFRAID WE  
*BOTH* WERE A LITTLE  
SUSPICIOUS OF  
EACH OTHER.

I KNEW  
YOU WERE  
INVESTIGATING  
WHEN I TOLD  
YOU, SO...



SO THAT'S  
RHODONITE?

FINDING IT  
WAS EASIER  
THAN I  
THOUGHT.



GUESS I  
HAVE NO  
CHOICE,  
THEN.

DIDN'T  
EXPECT  
YOU  
WOULD.



MAYBE  
SOME  
PHYSICAL  
FORCE WILL  
MAKE YOU  
RECONSIDER.











## Chapter 5: Road Knight





**BUT YOU  
ALWAYS  
CHARGE  
HEAD-  
ON...**

**...TRYING  
TO RUN  
DOWN THOSE  
UNDERWORLD  
ROADS ON  
YOUR OWN.**



**POW**





AND THAT'S JUST WHY THIS IS SO...

I'M A BIG FAN, YOU KNOW...

...UNFORTUNATE.

GAJEEL-SAN...

HUH?



WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU SAYING, BOSS?!

COULD I GET AN AUTOGRAPH?

You were a thrill to watch in the Grand Magic Games!



NOW THAT YOU'VE SEEN THIS TRANSACTION...

...YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO VANISH FOREVER.





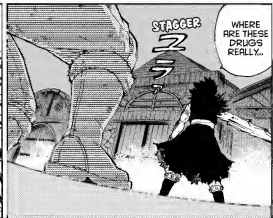


IDIOTS!!

YOU GUYS  
GOT SOME  
REAL ATTITUDE  
FOR NOTHIN'  
MORE THAN A  
LITTLE BOOST  
IN MAGIC  
POWER, DON'T YOU?

HUH?







IT  
MAKES  
YOU  
FEEL NO  
PAIN?



SO LOGICALLY,  
IF A PERSON  
CAN'T FEEL PAIN  
ANYMORE...



THAT'S THE  
REAL VALUE IN  
RHODONITE.

IT ISN'T  
JUST ABOUT  
BOOSTING  
A GUY'S  
MAGIC  
POWER.



IT'S  
AS  
IF...

...THEY EACH  
BECOME AN  
EVIL WARRIOR  
ROAMING THE  
DARK PATHS OF  
NIGHT-A ROAD  
KNIGHT.



...AND  
IT STILL  
WOULDN'T  
MATTER, I  
GUESS.

YOUR ARM  
COULD  
BE TORN  
OFF OR  
YOUR LEG  
RIPPED TO  
SHREDS...



IT IS A DRUG  
THAT ALLOWS  
PEOPLE TO KEEP  
ON FIGHTING AS  
ZOMBIES  
DO...



...IS TRYING  
TO TAKE THAT  
ON ALL BY  
HIMSELF?

GAJEEL



HUH?

HE WAS  
ALWAYS LIKE  
THAT.





## Chapter 6: The Gajeel I Never Knew





WE HAD TO DO  
A LOT OF BAD  
AND STUPID  
THINGS TO  
SURVIVE.

SURE.

AND YOU  
TEAMED  
UP WITH  
HIM THAT  
LONG  
AGO?



WE WENT AFTER  
SOME RICH FOLK  
AND ENDED UP  
CATCHIN' A FEW  
LUMPS OUR-  
SELVES.

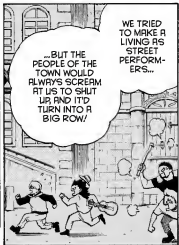


WE EVEN  
LEARNED  
MUSIC FROM  
TRAVELLING  
MINSTRELS.

PH  
HA  
HA  
Hey, you're  
really  
good!



HE WAS  
ALWAYS  
SAVING MY  
BUTT.



WE TRIED  
TO MAKE A  
LIVING AS  
STREET PER-  
FORMERS...

...BUT THE  
PEOPLE OF THE  
TOWN WOULD  
ALWAYS SCREAM  
AT US TO SHUT  
UP, AND IT'D  
TURN INTO A  
BIG ROW!



WE WERE  
ALWAYS  
TOGETHER.



WE WERE  
THE BEST  
TAG-TEAM  
EVER!

IF  
GAJEEL  
AND I  
TEAMED  
UP...

...THERE WAS  
NOTHING WE  
COULDN'T  
DO.



GAJEEL-KUN  
NEVER  
SPEAKS  
ABOUT HIS  
PAST.

THAT  
STORY  
WAS FAS-  
CINATING.



AND THEN I  
WENT AND  
GOT MYSELF  
CAUGHT.

...

Well

was  
slipped  
up



THE ORIGIN OF  
THAT TERRIBLE  
ATTITUDE HE HAD  
AT PHANTOM  
LORD.



?

BUT WE  
FOUND OUT  
ONE THING.



OH,  
WELL,  
IT'S  
JUST...

WHAT'S  
WRONG,  
LEVY?



I  
GUESS  
...

I REALIZED I  
NEVER KNEW  
ANYTHING  
ABOUT  
GAJEEL...







COME ON!  
YOU'RE KIDDING!





I'M SO  
GLAD  
YOU'RE  
OKAY!



...WHAT  
WAS  
THAT?

JUSTICE!

OR  
RATHER,  
REVENGE.



THAT'S  
GAJEEL  
FOR YOU!



...IT LOOKS LIKE THE  
RHODONITE PROBLEM  
HAS BEEN COMPLETELY  
TAKEN CARE OF THANKS  
TO GAJEEL!



BUT EVEN  
SO...

I GUESS I  
DIDN'T HAVE  
TO GO TO  
THE TROUBLE  
OF GETTING  
BACKUP FOR  
YOU, HUH?

You are  
are good  
at this



## Chapter 7: Will You Just Shut Up





SO...

...I'M  
GONNA  
HEAR IT  
FROM  
YOUR OWN  
MOUTH!



...ALL THAT  
RHODONITE  
AROUND,  
ARE YOU?

YOU  
AIN'T THE  
GUY WHO  
WENT AND  
SPREAD...



BUT I  
KNOW

...

...THAT  
THE LIFE  
WE LIVED  
TOGETHER  
WAS NO  
LIE!







... THAT  
THE LIFE  
WE LIVED  
TOGETHER  
WASN'T A  
LIE!



... MASH.

IT'S  
TOO  
BAD...



EVERY  
SINGLE  
TIME THAT  
YOU LIE...

... YOU  
TOUCH  
YOUR  
FACE WITH  
YOUR LEFT  
HAND.



AH  
HA  
HA!



...HEH.



YOU HAD  
THAT HABIT  
EVEN BACK  
THEN.



I HAD NO  
IDEA...

A HABIT...?  
MAKES  
SENSE...



YOU WERE  
SO STRONG,  
THAT STANDING  
BEHIND YOU, I  
NEVER THOUGHT  
YOU...

BUT YOU  
SURPRISE  
ME,  
GAJEEL!

...SAW  
ANYTHING  
THAT I  
DID.

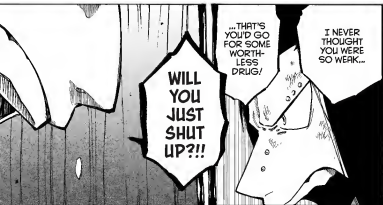


...MEANT  
THAT WE  
CRUSHED  
ANYBODY WE  
COULDN'T  
STAND.

THAT WAS  
ALL THERE  
WAS TO  
IT.

MASH!

THE WAY  
WE USED  
TO LIVE...



WILL  
YOU  
JUST  
SHUT  
UP?!!

...THAT'S  
YOU'D GO  
FOR SOME  
WORTH-  
LESS  
DRUG!

I NEVER  
THOUGHT  
YOU WERE  
SO WEAK...



...THEN IT'S  
MY JOB TO  
KNOCK SOME  
SENSE INTO  
YOU!

IF YOU'RE  
DOING  
SOMETHING  
YOU  
SHOULDN'T  
...

YOU CAME  
ALL THE  
WAY HERE  
JUST TO DO  
THAT?!

A LEC-  
TURE  
FROM  
YOU?!



...ACT LIKE  
YOU'RE  
SO MUCH  
BETTER  
THAN ME!

YOU'RE  
GOOD IN  
A FIGHT,  
SO YOU  
ALWAYS  
...

THAT'S  
WHAT'S SO  
ANNOYING  
ABOUT  
YOU!

EVEN  
BACK  
THEN/  
YOU'VE  
ALWAYS  
BEEN LIKE  
THAT!



はぁ、  
SIGH



DAMMIT!

SCRATCH

NO ONE ASKED  
FOR YOUR HELP,  
BUT HERE YOU  
COME, TRYIN'  
TO SAVE ME!

DAMMIT!

SCRATCH



...THAT  
YOU WERE  
ACTUALLY  
PAYING  
ATTENTION  
TO ME.

I WISH I  
KNEW A  
WHOLE LOT  
SOONER...



MASH  
...





...THEN  
USE EVERY-  
THING YOU  
GOT TO  
CRUSH  
ME!

BET  
YOU JUST  
CAN'T  
STAND IT.

AND  
IF YOU  
CAN'T...



YOU  
ARE ONE  
STUPID  
JERK!!

TCH!



VOOSH



Chapter 8: His Fight



CAN'T  
FEEL A  
THING!

SEE  
?

ZWIP

BLAT

BLAT

BLAT

GAJEEL  
!!

///SHIK

THIS IS ONE  
FIGHT WE CAN'T  
INTERFERE IN!

YEAH!

BUT I CAN'T  
LET YOU HELP  
OUT WITH  
THIS ONE.

SORRY,  
LEVY.

AND YOU  
TOO,  
LILY?!

GRAY  
?!

Gray—  
c'mon,  
when did  
you...



THIS ONE ...  
...IS  
GAJEEL'S  
FIGHT  
AND HIS  
ALONE.





KEEP  
THAT TO  
YOURSELF!

THEN I'LL  
WRITE A  
SONG FOR  
YOU AFTER-  
WARDS.

KEH!

CLANG

HUHP!

CLANK

CLANK

CLANK

CLANK

CLANK

YOU'VE  
CHANGED!  
IT'S LIKE  
YOU'RE  
A FULL-  
FLEDGED  
ADULT  
NOW!

GAH  
HR!

IT'S  
LIKE  
THEY  
TRUST  
YOU,  
GAJEEL!



YOU'RE  
ALWAYS ONE  
STEP AHEAD  
OF ME!

YOU'RE  
ALWAYS  
THE ONE  
THAT  
CHANGES!

BEFORE  
I DO!



...HATED  
YOU!!

...I'VE  
ALWAYS  
...

THAT'S  
WHY...



GA-  
JEEL!

ONCE  
I KILL  
YOU...

...I'LL  
...





...HAVE  
A VIEW  
OF THE  
WORLD  
WHERE  
YOU'RE  
NOT IN  
IT!!

...I  
GET IT  
NOW.

MASH...



...!!



GAJEEL  
!!



I ALWAYS  
THOUGHT  
WE WERE  
FRIENDS,  
BUT...

...I GUESS I  
WAS THE ONLY  
ONE THINKING  
THAT! DAMMIT!

STAGGER



**GACLANG**



I GUESS  
YOU GOT IT  
RIGHT...

...MASH!

**CRACK**



...IN-  
VOLVED  
...

I AIN'T  
HOW I  
USED TO  
BE...

NOW, I  
GET A LOT  
MORE...

...IN  
THINGS  
THAT ARE  
A REAL  
PAIN  
IN THE  
BUTT!!!





GIVE  
ON UP  
THAT VIEW  
WITHOUT  
ME IN  
IT!!



'CAUSE  
NO MATTER  
WHAT TRICKS  
YOU USE...

...YOU  
AIN'T  
EVER  
GONNA  
BEAT  
ME!!

WHUD

Chapter 9:  
Man Behind  
the Curtain





...WELL,  
THAT'S  
YOUR  
OWN  
BUSI-  
NESS.

IF YOU DECIDE  
TO GO OFF  
AND DIE IN A  
GUTTER AFTER  
THIS...



DON'T  
TALK  
STUPID!

I JUST  
COULDN'T  
STAND YOUR  
ATTITUDE, SO  
I HIT YOU.  
THAT'S ALL.



YOU  
WANNA DIE,  
THEN KILL  
YOURSELF  
OFF!

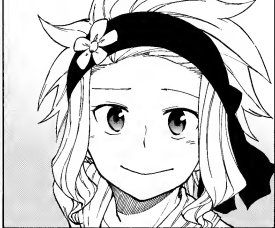


GAJEEL



TCH!

KOFF





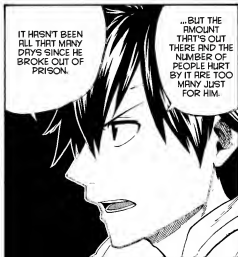
DON'T YOU  
THINK IT'S  
FISHY?

HOLD  
IT.



WHAT'S  
FISHY?

!!



IT HASN'T BEEN  
ALL THAT MANY  
DAYS SINCE HE  
BROKE OUT OF  
PRISON.

...BUT THE  
AMOUNT  
THAT'S OUT  
THERE AND THE  
NUMBER OF  
PEOPLE HURT  
BY IT ARE TOO  
MANY JUST  
FOR HIM.



HE SAID  
HE WAS  
MOVING THE  
RHODONITE,  
AND I  
ACCEPT  
THAT...

THAT GUY,  
MASH.

I THINK  
HE MAY  
HAVE HAD AN  
ACCOMPLICE.

フッ  
FWOOSH

BESIDES,  
EVEN IF  
HE USED  
RHODONITE...

...I STILL  
WONDER IF  
IT WOULD BE  
POSSIBLE FOR  
HIM TO BREAK  
OUT OF THE  
COUNCIL'S JAIL  
ON HIS OWN.







I WENT  
OUTTA MY  
WAY TO  
GET YOU  
OUT OF  
PRISON...

...AND FRONT  
YOU THE  
VERY BEST  
RHODONITE I  
CAN MAKE...

I THINK I  
SHOULD  
EXPECT  
A BETTER  
OUTCOME  
THAN THIS,  
RIGHT?



I EXPECT  
AT LEAST...

...AN  
"APOLOGY,"  
OF COURSE.

HOLD IT,  
VODKA  
KILLER.



THAT'S  
RIGHT.  
YOU NEVER  
NOTICED,  
DID YOU?



IN OTHER  
WORDS, THE  
ONE WHO WAS  
PULLIN' THE  
STRINGS ALL  
THIS TIME...

... WAS YOU?



YOU  
SHOULDN'T  
BE RELAX-  
ING, YOU  
KNOW!



NOW  
JUST A  
MINUTE!

THAT FIGURES.



SO I'VE  
BEEN THINKING  
THAT WE CAN  
RESOLVE  
EVERYTHING  
BY BREAKING  
SOME OF YOUR  
BONES.

...AND  
BEHIND THE  
RHODONITE  
TRADE.

YOU'RE THE  
GUY WHO  
BROKE  
OUT OF THE  
COUNCIL'S  
PRISON...

SHFF  
///  
=/  
...AND  
YOU WERE  
BEHIND  
GAJEEL'S  
DISAPPEAR-  
ANCE...

ALL  
WE GOTTA  
DO IS CRUSH  
THIS GUY AND  
HIS GANG,  
RIGHT?

BOOM

CRACK

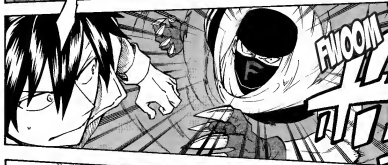


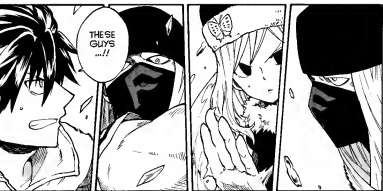


BUT BEFORE  
WE FLATTEN  
YOU, YOU'RE  
COMIN' WITH  
ME FOR A  
BIT...

... YOU  
BROKEN  
DOWN  
OLD  
MAN!









WHA  
-P!

HEY,  
SOMEBODY'S  
GOTTA TAKE  
THE FALL.  
LOOKS LIKE  
THAT WILL ALL  
BE ON YOU!



I'M  
GOING TO  
CHANGE SOME  
OF YOUR  
MEMORIES.

IT'S A  
BRAIN-  
WASH  
DRUG.



WELL, I SUPPOSE  
THIS IS WORTH  
MUCH MORE THAN  
THAT "APOLOGY"  
I WAS EXPECTIN'  
FROM YOU.



DON'T TELL  
ME THIS WAS  
YOUR PLAN  
RIGHT FROM  
THE START,  
WAS IT?!

K  
O  
F  
F



BUT LET'S FACE  
THE FACTS—WEAK  
GUYS LIKE YOU  
ARE ALWAYS  
GONNA END UP ON  
THE BAD END OF  
A BARGAIN. IT'S  
YOUR DESTINY.





...YOU  
DID ALL  
OF THAT  
YOURSELF.

MASH

...AND  
MAKING DENISH A  
STRONGHOLD FOR  
RHODONITE...

YOUR  
BREAK-  
OUT...

...GETTING  
INTO THE  
DRUG  
TRADE...



ANY-  
WAY...

AND ONCE  
THE JOB'S  
DONE, THE  
GUILD JERKS  
GET PAID AND  
THEY CAN'T  
COMPLAIN.

ALL YOU HAVE TO  
DO IS LET THOSE  
ROCK-HEAD'S  
IN THE COUNCIL  
CAPTURE YOU.

AND ONCE  
YOU'RE  
CONVICTED,  
THE JOB'S  
DONE.



I MEAN EVEN  
YOUR OLDEST  
FRIENDS HAVE  
ABANDONED  
YOU, RIGHT?

I DOUBT  
ANYBODY WILL  
COMPLAIN  
WHEN YOU  
TAKE THE  
FALL.

HA  
HA HA  
HA!!





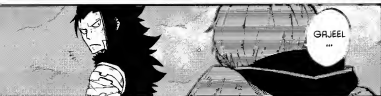
WHAT  
ABOUT  
IT?

YOU  
FORGOT  
HOW GOOD  
A DRAGON  
SLAYER'S  
NOSE IS.



GAJEEL  
?!

HOW'D  
YOU FIND  
ME IN THIS  
FOG...?!



GAJEEL  
...



WHAT IS  
WRONG  
WITH  
YOU?!

ARE  
YOU STILL  
TRYING TO  
*SAVE* ME?!



YOU  
AND I  
AREN'T—



'CAUSE I'M  
STRONG  
ENOUGH  
TO HANDLE  
IT.





WE  
CAN  
TALK  
THIS  
OUT—

W—  
WAIT,  
GAJEEL!

CLANK



THIS  
IS WHAT  
FAIRY  
TAIL IS!







BUT I  
PLAY TO  
WIN EVERY  
TIME!

YOU'RE  
BETTER AT  
MOUTHING  
OFF THAN  
I AM.

KH...

That's an  
awful way  
to say it

OF COURSE



... YOU...  
YOU'VE SAVED  
ME MORE  
TIMES THAN I  
CAN COUNT,  
Y'KNOW?

AS WEAK  
AS YOU  
ARE...



YOU  
NEVER  
FIGURED  
THAT  
OUT?



OF  
COURSE I  
DIDN'T...

...DUMMY!



GAJEEL!



THE  
FOG...IT'S  
CLEARED  
AWAY!

A black and white manga panel showing three characters from behind, looking out over a landscape where the fog has cleared. On the left is a character with long, dark, spiky hair and a dark dress. In the center is a smaller character with a white cap and a striped shirt. On the right is a character with spiky, light-colored hair and a white shirt with a flame emblem. A full moon is visible in the dark sky above them.







RHODONITE...

THE STUFF  
THAT MAKES  
PEOPLE  
INTO DARK  
ROAD  
KNIGHTS...



GAJEEL'S  
BELOVED  
HOMETOWN  
IS BACK TO  
NORMAL,  
AND WE'VE  
DONE MORE  
THAN ANYONE  
BARGAINED  
FOR.

WE'VE  
GATHERED  
UP ALL THE  
RHODONITE  
CIRCULATING  
THROUGH THE  
TOWN...

...SO THE  
CASE IS  
CLOSED.



AND THAT  
GUY MASH...

...I GUESS  
HE GOT  
INVOLVED WITH  
RHODONITE  
BECAUSE HE  
WAS ALWAYS  
LOOKING UP  
TO GAJEEL.

GAJEEL CAME  
TO A DARK  
TOWN FULL OF  
OUTLAWS AND  
BANDITS, AND  
HE CLEANED  
IT UP



THERE IS A  
STONE WITH  
THE SAME NAME,  
RHODONITE.

DID YOU  
HEAR,  
LEVY...





GAJEEL IS  
ONE MAN, BUT  
HE HAS MANY  
ASPECTS.



WHEN GIVEN  
AS A GIFT, IT HAS  
THE MEANING  
OF SOMEONE  
WHO HOLDS HIS  
FRIENDS AND  
FAMILY VERY  
CLOSE.



AND TO  
GET TO  
KNOW THEM  
MYSELF.

IT  
ACTUALLY  
MAKES ME  
HAPPY TO  
SEE HIS HOME  
TOWN AND  
FRIENDS...



AAA!

THOOM



YEAH.









THE YEAR IS X791.  
IT HAS BEEN ABOUT  
A HALF YEAR  
SINCE FAIRY TAIL  
DISBANDED.

ON THE  
BAMBINA  
HIGHWAY JUST  
OUTSIDE THE  
BAMBOO  
FOREST...

## Chapter 12: First Bout





TCH!

FOUND  
YOU!

PRISONER  
NUMBER  
100977!

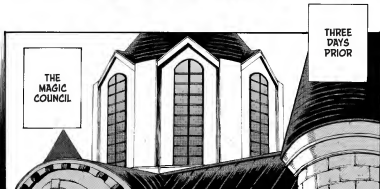
FAIRY  
TAIL?

WHAT EVIL  
ARE YOU  
PLOTTING  
WAY OUT  
HERE?

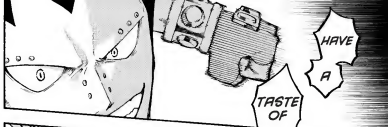
GEE  
HEE!

I AIN'T IN  
FAIRY TAIL  
NO MORE.

CODE-  
NAMED:  
COBRA!









POISON DRAGON'S



DOKU-  
RYŪ  
NO\*...



GUH!

CRUNCH



HYAH!

TCH!



A BREATH  
WEAPON?

...HÔKÔ\*  
!!!

FWOOM



DID  
HE JUST  
MISS  
ME?

HE  
MISSED  
ME ON  
PUR-  
POSE!

NO...



?!



GWOOOH

EYAAH!

!!



DAMMIT  
!!

CRAASH  
ガシヤァ!

SO HE  
WAS REALLY  
AIMING  
AT THE  
PEOPLE  
DRIVING  
THAT  
CARRIAGE?









AND THAT'S WHY THIS HAPPENED?

THOSE MEN JUST SUDDENLY ARRIVED...

...AND FORCED US INTO THEIR CARRIAGE.



THESE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS WHILE THE COUNCIL WAS BUSY REFORMING...

YOU HAVEN'T HEARD ABOUT IT?

CHURCH AFTER CHURCH HAVE BEEN ATTACKED.



YEAH. THE SLAVE TRADE.



IT'S ESCAPED CONVICTS LIKE YOU THAT'VE BEEN KEEPING US SO BUSY!

SO DON'T GET SO UPPITY!

WHAT KINDA WORK HAVE YOU JERKS BEEN DOING ALL THIS TIME?

HUHP

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE





STOP  
YOUR  
BLUB-  
BERIN'!



IF YOU WANNA  
SURVIVE,  
YOU JUST  
START MOVIN'  
FORWARD!



NO USE  
IN THAT.  
ESPECIALLY  
IF YOUR  
FAMILY AIN'T  
AROUND.



WHICH  
BRINGS  
ME TO THE  
POINT...



THIS  
GUY  
IS...











## Chapter 14: The Infallible Plan





BUT WHY  
WOULD  
ONE OF THE  
SEIS...P

IT LOOKS LIKE  
THE COUNCIL HAS  
FINALLY SNIFFED  
US OUT.

HE HASN'T  
TEAMED UP  
WITH GAJEEL,  
HAS HE?  
NAWL...



I'D SAY IF WE  
TRIED TO FIGHT  
'EM HEAD-ON,  
WE HAVE A SLIM  
CHANCE OF  
WINNING...

YOU  
THINK IT'S  
OKAY?

...

...BUT...



SO IF  
THEY'RE  
HEADING  
HERE...

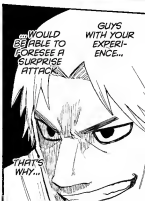
THIS  
IS MY  
TER-  
RITORY!

... THERE ARE  
PLENTY OF  
WAYS THAT  
WE CAN  
SHOW THEM  
A GOOD  
WELCOME.











THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE...

YOU MANAGED TO AVOID MY ATTACK ?!



I HEARD EVERY SINGLE SOUND!!

NOBODY CAN ATTACK ME BY SURPRISE!



THWOOM

GUH!



WHAP?

TOH!

YOU CAN'T DODGE AND LET ME GET HIT LIKE THAT!!



RAWRG!

HEY! COBRA!!



THEY'RE  
TOTALLY  
UNSCATHED  
?!



THIS IS  
BAD!!



WE'RE  
GONNA TAKE  
BACK THOSE  
HOSTAGES  
NOW!!



I  
ORDER  
YOU TO  
PROTECT  
ME!!

??!

NUMBER  
62, 63,  
AND...

...64!!











YOU  
DON'T MIND  
GETTING  
THE BRATS  
CAUGHT UP  
IN IT?

I DON'T LIKE  
THE WAY YOU  
USE MAGIC,  
YOU JERK!



HOW  
ADMIRA-  
BLE OF  
YOU!

OH? YOU'RE  
ACTUALLY  
PROTECT-  
ING THE  
BRATS?!

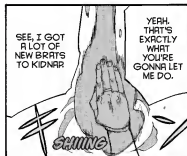




I CAN  
EASILY PUT  
A STOP TO  
THEM NOW!

THIS IS  
INCRED-  
IBLE!

THIS  
SHOULD  
WORK ON  
THE COUNCIL  
AND THE  
GUILDS!



SEE, I GOT  
A LOT OF  
NEW BRATS  
TO KIDNAP

YEAH,  
THAT'S  
EXACTLY  
WHAT  
YOU'RE  
GONNA LET  
ME DO.

SHIING



YOU THINK  
WE'RE GONNA  
LET YOU GET  
AWAY?!



HA HA  
HA HA  
HA HA  
HA!!

WHOOOSH

SO FEEL  
FREE TO  
PLAY WITH  
THE BRATS  
UNTIL YOU  
DROP  
DEAD!





YOU DON'T  
GET IT,  
DO YOU?



YOU'D  
BE OUTTA  
THERE IN  
NO TIME IF  
YOU'D JUST  
KILL THE  
BRATS.

TRYING TO  
BE A HERO  
IS JUST  
FOR STUPID  
PEOPLE!



I'M THE  
POISON  
DRAGON  
OF THE  
ORACIÓN  
SEIS, YOU  
KNOW!

Celva?

I'M NO  
COUNCIL MEMBER.  
AIN'T NO WIZARD  
FROM SOME  
OFFICIAL GUILD  
EITHER.



I DON'T  
FOLLOW THE  
SAME RULES  
THE HEROES  
DO!



**DOKURYŪ  
NO  
HÔKÔ\***  
**!!!**

**FWOOM**

**WHA  
-?!**



YEAH!  
YOU  
GOT  
IT!!



HEY!!!  
YOU  
GOTTA  
BE KID-  
DING!!

YOU  
DON'T  
CARE IF  
THEY'RE  
KID'S OR  
NOT?

WHUD WHUD  
ドドオッ



ZLAASH

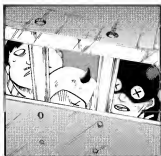
I'M EVEN  
WORSE  
THAN  
YOU  
GUYS!!





**GACHANK**













MY WHOLE  
REASON FOR  
BEING HERE  
IS OVER  
NOW.



HUH?

DON'T  
HASSLE ME  
WITH YOUR  
SMILES!



THAT  
MEANS  
THERE AIN'T  
NO REASON  
FOR ME  
TO STICK  
AROUND  
ANYMORE.



!





...AND  
MAKE  
MY WAY  
OUTTA  
HERE  
A FREE  
MAN!



FINISHED  
WITH  
WHATEVER  
BUSINESS  
YOU HAD?

## Final Chapter: The Place to Go Home to







HONESTLY!  
THEY'RE  
ALWAYS  
GOING OFF  
DOING STUFF  
ON THEIR  
OWN!

DOESN'T  
IT BOTHER  
YOU AT ALL,  
JELLAL?!



NO. YOU SEE, I  
DON'T INTEND  
TO BE A CHAIN  
ON THEM.



...I BELIEVE  
IT IS TIME  
FOR US  
TO TRUST  
THEM.

BESIDES,  
SINCE  
THEY'VE BE-  
COME OUR  
COMRADES...



THERE IS  
SOMETHING IN  
EVERYONE'S  
HEART OF  
WHICH THEY ARE  
UNWILLING TO  
LET GO.



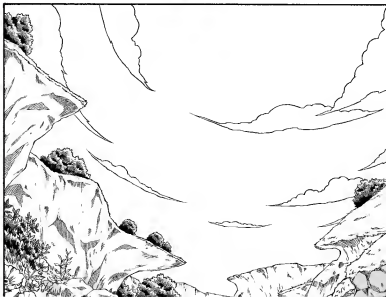
DON'T LET  
THOSE NAIVE  
THOUGHTS  
TRIP YOU UP!

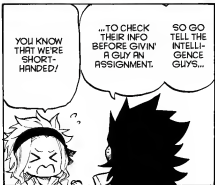


I CAN  
HEAR  
YOU!



HEH









THAT I'D  
GET THEIR  
FAMILY  
BACK FIRST  
THING.

ON THE  
OTHER HAND,  
I MADE A  
PROMISE  
TO THOSE  
BRATS.

I DON'T  
CARE WHAT  
YOU GOT  
GOING ON.

I CAN'T  
JUST LET  
YOU GO.



SO  
YOU'D  
BETTER BE  
HERE WHEN  
I GET BACK.  
GOT IT?!

WHILE I'M  
DOING THAT,  
I MAY NOT  
BE ABLE  
TO WATCH  
YOU LIKE I  
WANT TO.

YOU'RE ALL  
IDIOTS! YOU,  
NATSU, AND  
ALL THE REST!

THAT'S  
FAIRY  
TAIL FOR  
YOU!

MAYBE  
I SHOULD  
ARREST  
YOU!

HA!

FAIRY  
TAIL  
STILL  
EXISTS!

IT'S ALMOST  
TOO BAD IT  
DOESN'T EXIST  
ANYMORE.

BUT THAT  
DOESN'T  
MATTER  
TO ME.

...AND  
EVERYBODY  
SCATTERED  
TO THE  
WINDS...

THE  
GUILD  
HALL  
MAY BE  
GONE...

A black and white manga panel featuring the character Zeref. He has long, spiky black hair with a flame-like shape at the top and a lightning bolt on the side. He has a serious expression, multiple piercings on his face, and is wearing a dark shirt. A speech bubble from the right contains the text "FAIRY TAIL IS THE PLACE WHERE I BELONG!".

FAIRY  
TAIL IS  
THE PLACE  
WHERE I  
BELONG!



SO THAT'S  
WHY WE HAVE  
TO DO OUR  
BEST HERE!

FAIRY TAIL  
COULD  
REFORM AT  
ANY TIME AND  
PLACE!



COME ON,  
GAJEEL! SNAP  
OUT OF IT!

YOUR  
NEXT  
JOB!

FLIP  
JUMP



HEH!



IF I  
GOTTA,  
THEN I  
GUESS I  
GOTTA.

TO BE CONTINUED IN FAIRY TAIL

# Intermission



YOU'RE  
DOIN' AN  
INFILTRATE AND  
INVESTIGATE  
GIG?



I AM  
NOT  
!!!

I'D SAY HIS  
INTEREST SHOWS  
THAT GAJEEL IS  
WORRIED.

In his own  
way

HUH?



AND  
THEY'RE  
ACTING  
A LITTLE  
SUSPICIOUSLY  
LATELY.

YEP!

WAIT, I KNOW  
THIS "AVATAR."  
IT WORSHIPS  
ZEREF, RIGHT?



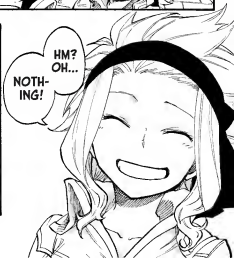
ARE YOU  
MAKING  
FUN OF  
ME?

YOU'RE  
SO TINY.

WELL, I DOUBT  
THEY'D FIND  
YOU OUT.

Grr

GEE  
HEE



# AFTERWORD

It's the second volume of Fairy Tail Gaiden!

This time, Gajeel is the main character, and to tell the truth, Gajeel is a Fairy Tail wizard that I particularly like.

And since this story touches on parts of Gajeel's past, it introduces a character by the name of Mash.

Actually, I really worried about whether or not to include Mash.

But even so...and I mentioned this in the last volume's Afterword, but I'm a personal fan of Fairy Tail, and I really like the Fairy Tail worldview. On top of that, I get to work with a wizard I like and get into his past, so I wondered if it's okay to stuff in a character that I created? I mean, really, is that okay...? As manga creator Shibano, this makes me happier than anything, but Fairy Tail-fan Shibano screamed at me for wanting to add an original character, and I couldn't get past that.

And that's why I worry. I mean if it's an enemy character, the hero can hit them, and BOOM, it's over. You don't worry too much about that...

So when I talked to my editor about it he said, "If your enemy character is compelling, doesn't that make the hero [Gajeel] who defeats him even more compelling?"

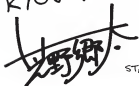
Hey, that's true!!!!

If I'm going to draw a really cool Gajeel, I can't have him go up against a half-baked antagonist! And that's how Mash gradually became the character that he is. And I have to say that I'm really liking Mash now.

And although it was a bit of a short story, I had Gajeel do a tag-team with Cobra. Since Gajeel's with the council, and Cobra broke out of the council's jail cell, I thought this might be the perfect chance to team them up. Since neither of them ever actually say what they're really thinking or feeling, I think it gave their dialog a bit of a unique atmosphere.

Anyway, let's meet again in the next volume!

KYOUTA SHIBANO



STAFF: ATSUKO UEDA, MINAMI YASAKA, MERIO YUKINAGA

SPECIAL THANKS: KIMI-CHAN

## Translation Notes:

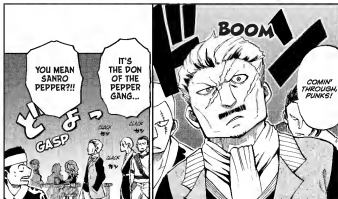
### Page 5, Local Specialty

There's a tradition in Japan that when traveling, every region has a dish or two that is considered their signature dish. Sometimes it's related to the crops grown or animals available in the region and other times related to certain ways of preparing food. The smart traveler researches these before he takes off on his journey, and there are some who simply memorize all the local specialties all over Japan. Some examples include Okonomiyaki (a meat & veggie pancake-like dish) for places like Hiroshima and Osaka, fried prawns for Nagoya, or Champon (a Chinese noodle dish) for Nagasaki.



### Page 23, Don of the Pepper Gang

As the readers probably figured, Sanro Pepper is not named Donald. The Japanese also uses the word 'Don,' and, of course, it's the same word as we know in the phrase 'mafia don.' Just for those who don't know, it's originally an Italian word *donno* which



is a word of respect, although it was originally a word for 'lord' (it comes from the Latin, *dominus*)

## Page 61, Road Knight

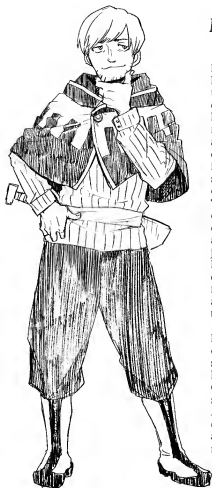


IT'S  
AS  
IF...

...THEY EACH  
BECOME AN  
EVIL WARRIOR  
ROAMING THE  
DARK PATHS OF  
NIGHT-A ROAD  
KNIGHT.

There are unique aspects of the Japanese language that make the way the Japanese spell Rhodonite exactly the same as the way the Japanese would spell the English words, Road Knight. But in this case, the 'road' is referring to a dark, scary road, and the 'knight' would be more like a warrior or swordsman. And you wouldn't want to meet a swordsman on a dark road, would you? That's the nuance that is being imparted to the Japanese reader when they read the meaning (in small Japanese letters next to the English words).





## MASH

He wasn't a wizard himself, but he was able to use his easy-going conversation style to become a seller of magic items (although it seems an easy-going personality can't successfully sell all items). He also learned swordsmanship for self-defense.

The council became aware of him after he sold defective magic items in a fraud case, and he was jailed. But one thing he kept a secret was that he claimed responsibility for all the actions of his accomplices, allowing them to go free.

He always seemed to rely on Gajeel's overwhelming strength, and because he could never match Gajeel's strength, he started getting jealous. After they talked things over, he returned to jail, and awaited the end of his now-extended sentence.

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Fairy Tail takes place in a world filled with magic. 17-year-old Lucy is a wizard-in-training who wants to join a magic guild so that she can become a full-fledged wizard. She dreams of joining the most famous guild, known as Fairy Tail. One day she meets Natsu, a boy raised by a dragon which vanished when he was young. Natsu has devoted his life to finding his dragon father. When Natsu helps Lucy out of a tricky situation, she discovers that he is a member of Fairy Tail, and our heroes' adventure together begins.

# FAIRY TAIL

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**MASTER'S EDITION**

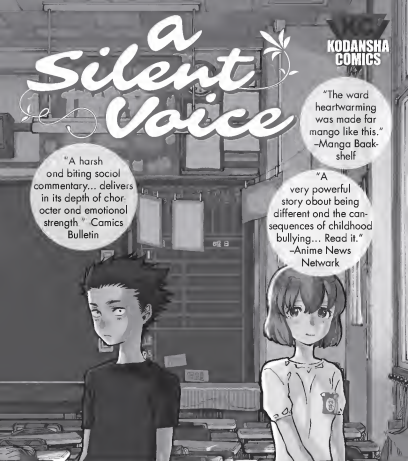
# a Silent Voice

KODANSHA  
COMICS

"A harsh  
and biting social  
commentary... delivers  
in its depth of char-  
acter and emotional  
strength." Comics  
Bulletin

"The ward  
heartwarming  
was made far  
manga like this."  
-Manga Back-  
shelf

"A  
very powerful  
story about being  
different and the con-  
sequences of childhood  
bullying... Read it."  
-Anime News  
Network



Shoya is a bully. When Shoko, a girl who can't hear, enters his elementary school class, she becomes their favorite target, and Shoya and his friends goad each other into devising new tortures for her. But the children's cruelty goes too far. Shoko is forced to leave the school, and Shoya ends up shouldering all the blame. Six years later, the two meet again. Can Shoya make up for his past mistakes, or is it too late?

Available now in print and digitally!

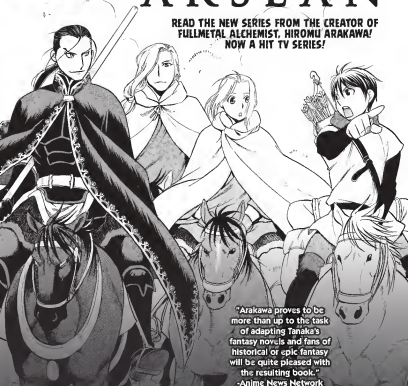
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COMICS

# THE HEROIC LEGEND OF ARSLAN

READ THE NEW SERIES FROM THE CREATOR OF  
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST, HIROMU ARAKAWA!  
NOW A HIT TV SERIES!



"Arakawa proves to be more than up to the task of adapting Tanaka's fantasy novels and fans of historical or epic fantasy will be quite pleased with the resulting book."  
-Anime News Network

## ECBATANA IS BURNING!

Arslan is the young and curious prince of Pars who, despite his best efforts doesn't seem to have what it takes to be a proper king like his father. At the age of 14, Arslan goes to his first battle and loses everything as the blood-soaked mist of war gives way to scorching flames, bringing him to face the demise of his once glorious kingdom. However, it is Arslan's destiny to be a ruler, and despite the trials that face him, he must now embark on a journey to reclaim his fallen kingdom.

Available now in print and digitally!

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# SANKAREA

## UNDYING LOVE



**"I ONLY  
LIKE  
ZOMBIE  
GIRLS."**

Chihiro has an unusual connection to zombie movies. He doesn't feel bad for the survivors – he wants to comfort the undead girls they slaughter! When his pet passes away, he brews a resurrection potion. He's discovered by local heiress Sanka Rea, and she serves as his first test subject!





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# DEVIL SURVIVOR

AFTER DEMONS BREAK THROUGH INTO THE HUMAN WORLD, TOKYO MUST BE QUARANTINED. WITHOUT POWER AND STUCK IN A SUPERNATURAL WARZONE, 17-YEAR-OLD KAZUYA HAS ONLY ONE HOPE: HE MUST USE THE "COMP," A DEVICE CREATED BY HIS COUSIN NAOYA CAPABLE OF SUMMONING AND SUBDUING DEMONS, TO DEFEAT THE INVADERS AND TAKE BACK THE CITY.

BASED ON THE POPULAR  
VIDEO GAME FRANCHISE BY  
**ATLUS!**

# INUYASHIKI

**A superhero like none  
you've ever seen, from the  
creator of "Gantz"!**

**ICHIRO INUYASHIKI IS DOWN ON HIS LUCK. HE LOOKS MUCH  
OLDER THAN HIS 58 YEARS, HIS CHILDREN DESPISE HIM, AND  
HIS WIFE THINKS HE'S A USELESS COWARD. SO WHEN HE'S  
DIAGNOSED WITH STOMACH CANCER AND GIVEN THREE MONTHS  
TO LIVE, IT SEEMS THE ONLY ONE WHO'LL MISS HIM IS HIS DOG.**

**THEN A BLINDING LIGHT FILLS THE SKY, AND THE OLD MAN  
IS KILLED... ONLY TO WAKE UP LATER IN A BODY HE ALMOST  
RECOGNIZES AS HIS OWN. CAN IT BE THAT ICHIRO INUYASHIKI  
IS NO LONGER HUMAN?**

**COMES IN EXTRA-LARGE EDITIONS WITH COLOR PAGES!**



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Inuyashiki © Hisaya Kurogami. All rights reserved.

# Maria

## THE VIRGIN WITCH

"Maria's brand of righteous justice, passion and plain talking make for one of the freshest manga series of 2015. I dare any other book to top it."

—UK Anime Network

### PURITY AND POWER

As a war to determine the rightful ruler of medieval France ravages the land, the witch Maria decides she will not stand idly by as men kill each other in the name of God and glory. Using her powerful magic, she summons various beasts and demons—even going as far as using a succubus to seduce soldiers into submission under the veil of night—all to stop the needless slaughter. However, after the Archangel Michael puts an end to her meddling, he curses her to lose her powers if she ever gives up her virginity. Will she forgo the forbidden fruit of adulthood in order to bring an end to the merciless machine of war?

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**PRAISE FOR THE ANIME!**

"This series never fails to put a smile on my face."

-Dramatic Reviews

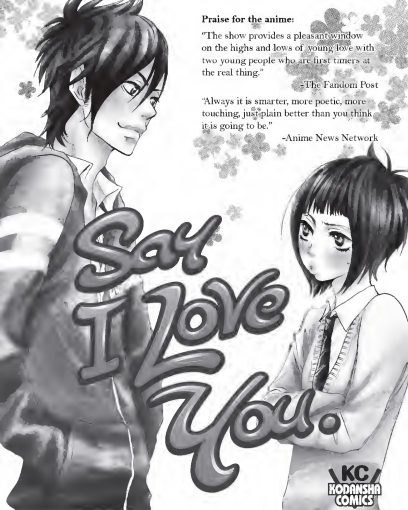
"A very funny look at what happens when two strange and strangely well-suited people try to navigate the thorny path to true love together."

-Anime News Network



## OPPOSITES ATTRACT...MAYBE?

Haru Yoshida is feared as an unstable and violent "monster." Mizutani Shizuku is a grade-obsessed student with no friends. Fate brings these two together to form the most unlikely pair. Haru firmly believes he's in love with Mizutani and she firmly believes he's insane.



**Praise for the anime:**

"The show provides a pleasant window on the highs and lows of young love with two young people who are first timers at the real thing."

-The Fandom Post

"Always it is smarter, more poetic, more touching, just plain better than you think it is going to be."

-Anime News Network

**Mei Tachibana has no friends — and says she doesn't need them!**

But everything changes when she accidentally roundhouse kicks the most popular boy in school! However, Yamato Kurosawa isn't angry in the slightest — in fact, he thinks his ordinary life could use an unusual girl like Mei. But winning Mei's trust will be a tough task. How long will she refuse to say, "I love you"?



# NO.6

## A PERFECT LIFE IN A PERFECT CITY

For Shion, an elite student in the technologically sophisticated city No. 6, life is carefully choreographed. One fateful day, he takes a misstep, sheltering a fugitive his age from a typhoon. Helping this boy throws Shion's life down a path to discovering the appalling secrets behind the "perfection" of No. 6.

# DON'T MISS THE MOST ACCLAIMED ACTION MANGA OF 2013!

"Gripping doesn't begin to describe Vinland Saga. 5 stars."  
—ICv2

"Deeply engrossing... If you have any interest at all in Vikings, the Medieval period, or pirates, this is not a series you want to miss."

—Anime News Network

"The art is gorgeous, a combination of beautiful cartooning and realistic backgrounds. Yukimura is also a master of pacing, both in frenetic battle scenes and charged emotional moments."

—Faith Erin Hicks, *Friends With Boys*

"For those who love *Berserk*, you'll love this too... Worth the long wait."

—A Case Suitable for Treatment

"It will be impossible to stop watching this story unfold."  
—Japan Media Arts Awards jury

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A VIKING EPIC FROM THE  
AUTHOR OF "PLANETES"

# VINLAND SAGA

AVAILABLE NOW IN HARDCOVER

# SHERLOCK BONES

KC  
KODANSHA  
COMICS



## DEDUCTIVE DOG DETECTIVE

When Takeru adopts a new pet, he's in for a surprise—the dog is none other than the reincarnation of Sherlock Holmes. With no one else able to communicate with Holmes, Takeru is roped into becoming Sherdog's assistant, John Watson. Using his sleuthing skills, Holmes uncovers clues to solve the trickiest crimes. 🐾



# Yamada-kun AND THE Seven Witches

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"A very funny manga with a  
lot of heart and character."  
—Adventures in Poor Taste

SWAPPED WITH A KISS?! 現代

Class troublemaker Ryu Yamada is already having a bad day when he stumbles down a staircase along with star student Urara Shiraishi. When he wakes up, he realizes they have switched bodies—and that Ryu has the power to trade places with anyone just by kissing them! Ryu and Urara take full advantage of the situation to improve their lives, but with such an oddly amazing power, just how long will they be able to keep their secret under wraps?

Available now in print and digitally!

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## **Fairy Tail Rhodonite**

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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